

# 2011 Nebraska Cyber Security Conference

**Brandon Harms**

CISSP, CEH, GPEN, CCNP, FCNSP

Security Consultant



# **SANS 20 CRITICAL SECURITY CONTROLS VERSION 3.0**

“Offense Must Inform Defense”



Collaboration between members of:

***FBI, DoD, Civilian, Federal***

Maps directly to:

***NIST Special Publication 800-53, Rev 3,  
Priority 1 controls.***

<http://www.sans.org/critical-security-controls/>

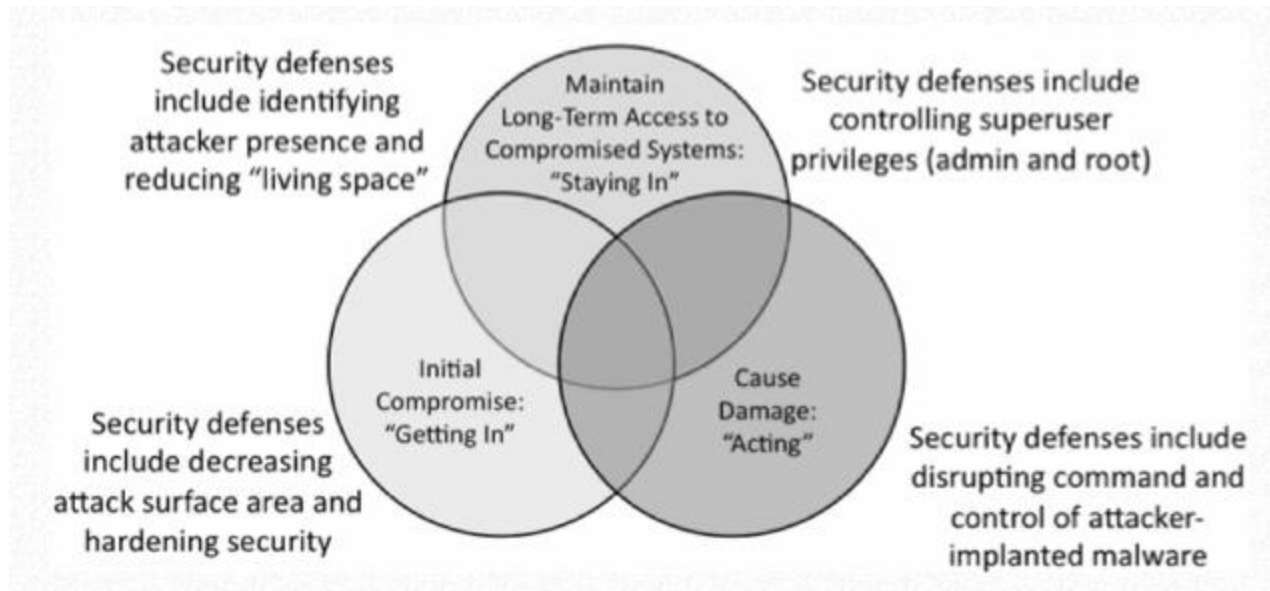


# How these controls can help

- *Effective in Blocking:*
  - Currently known high-priority attacks
  - Attack types expected in the near future.



# Computer Attacker Activities and Associated Defenses



# Attackers are continually scanning for new systems

- Critical Control 1
  - Inventory of Authorized and Unauthorized Devices
- Deploy an automated asset inventory discovery tool



Attackers continually scan for  
vulnerable software &

Attackers distribute hostile content on websites

- Critical Control 2
  - Inventory of Authorized and Unauthorized Software
- Devise a list of authorized software.



# Attackers use currently infected or compromised machines

- Critical Control 3
  - Secure Configurations for Hardware and Software on Laptops, Workstations, and Servers
- Strict configuration management should be followed





# Attackers exploit “temporary exceptions”

- Critical Control 4
  - Secure Configurations for Network Devices such as Firewalls, Routers, and Switches
- Change Control for Network Devices



# Attackers exploit boundary systems

- Critical Control 5
  - Boundary Defense
- Deploy network-based IDS sensors
- Organizations should limit access to known malicious IP addresses



# Attackers remain undetected due to a lack of logging and log review

- Critical Control 6
  - Maintenance, Monitoring, and Analysis of Audit Logs
- Validate audit log settings & run biweekly reports



# Attackers exploit weak application software

- Critical Control 7
  - Application Software Security
- Organizations should deploy web application firewalls



# Attackers gain administrative control

- Critical Control 8
  - Controlled Use of Administrative Privileges
- Inventory all admin passwords
- Before deploying new devices change all default passwords



# Attackers gain access to sensitive documents

- Critical Control 9
  - Controlled Access Based on the Need to Know
- Establish a multi-level data identification and classification scheme
- Ensure that file shares have defined controls



# Attackers exploit new vulnerabilities

- Critical Control 10
  - Continuous Vulnerability Assessment and Remediation
- At minimum run automated vulnerability scanning tools weekly



# Attackers compromise inactive user accounts

- Critical Control 11
  - Account Monitoring and Control
- Regularly monitor and review all system accounts
- Maintain stringent password rules





# Attackers use malicious code

- Critical Control 12
  - Malware Defenses
- Send malware detection events to event log servers
- Scan email attachments
- Employ auto update features



# Attackers scan for remotely accessible services on target systems

- Critical Control 13
  - Limitation and Control of Network Ports, Protocols, and Services
- Host-based firewalls or port filtering tools should be applied on end systems.
- Automated port scans should be performed on a regular basis



# Attackers exploit wireless access points

- Critical Control 14
  - Wireless Device Control
- Ensure that all wireless access points are manageable
- Detect wireless access points connected to the wired network



# Attackers gain access to internal enterprise systems

- Critical Control 15
  - Data Loss Prevention
- Deploy approved hard drive encryption software to mobile machines
- Monitor for certain sensitive information



# Attackers exploit poorly designed network architectures

- Critical Control 16
  - Secure Network Engineering
- Use minimum of a 3-Tier Architecture
- Utilize private networks



Attackers compromise target organizations that do not continually improve their effectiveness.

- Critical Control 17
  - Penetration Tests and Red Team Exercises
- Conduct regular external and internal penetration tests



# Attackers operate undiscovered in organizations

- Critical Control 18
  - Incident Response Capability
- Have written incident response procedures
- Devise time standards for reporting anomalous events



# Attackers compromise systems and alter important data

- Critical Control 19
  - Data Recovery Capability
- Automatically back up on at least a weekly basis
- Data on backup media should be tested on a regular basis





# Attackers exploit users and system admins via social engineering scams

- Critical Control 20
  - Security Skills Assessment and Appropriate Training to Fill Gap
- Develop security awareness training



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